

Application No. 09/916,678

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application.

I. Response to Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1-7 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-2 and 5-9 of co-pending Application No. 10/201,775. Claims 1, 4-7, and 9 of 10/201,775 were previously amended in an Amendment filed on July 24, 2003 for that application, to overcome the double patenting rejection. Therefore, withdrawal of the double patenting rejection in the present application, is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-13 are provisionally rejected under the Judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 12-19 of co-pending Application No. 10/201,775. Claims 12, and 15-18 of 10/201,775 were previously amended in an Amendment filed on July 24, 2003 to overcome the double patenting rejection for that application. Therefore, withdrawal of the double patenting rejection in the present application, is respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 1-2 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,480,202 to Deguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,956,004 to Hush. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Deguchi in combination with Hush teaches or suggests correction means which corrects input-output characteristic data for display that is used by a means for displaying the image, the correction being in such a manner as the increase an output value in at least a lower gray scale range when the environment is affected by ambient light, based on the environmental information, as recited in claim 1, a correction section which corrects input-output characteristic data for display that is used by a means for displaying the image, the correction being in such a manner as to increase an output value in

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at least a lower grayscale range when the environment is affected by ambient light, based on the environmental information, as recited in claim 7, and, correction means for correcting input-output characteristic data for display that is used by a means for displaying the image, the correction being in such a manner as to increase an output value in at least a lower grayscale range when the environment is affected by ambient light, based on the environmental information, as recited in claims 8-9. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Instead, Deguchi is directed towards processing color images on a standard monitor or Cathode-Ray Tube (CRT) or a liquid crystal display (LCD). Hush is directed towards a system for controlling gray scale range brightness solely on a Field Emission Display (FED).

Moreover, Hush teaches away from the use of controlling gray scale range brightnesses on LCDs or CRTs. See Hush, column 1, lines 23-40. As such, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the gray scale adjusting features of Hush with the image processing system of Deguchi.

The Office Action also asserts that Figures 4A-4C of Hush disclose correction means to correct the input-output characteristic data by performing a predetermined calculation using parameters that differ between a lower grayscale range and a grayscale range other than the lower grayscale range, as recited in claim 2. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Instead, Figure 4A of Hush illustrates a relationship between elapsed time and voltage values sampled from analog signal 45, Figure 4B highlights the outputs of sample and hold circuitry 65 with respect to voltage values sampled from analog signal 45, and Figure 4C depicts sawtooth ramps which peak corresponding to voltage values sampled from analog signal 45 (see column 4, lines 37-47).

Consequently, Hush fails to teach or suggest using parameters. As such, Hush fails to disclose parameters that differ between a lower grayscale range and a grayscale range other than the lower grayscale range, as recited in claim 2.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-13 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JFH/cmf

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